## RECEIVED

October 12, 2001

OCT 1 5 2001

552011

Ms. Carol Hanlon S&ER Products Manager U. S. Department of Energy Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office P.O. Box 30307 M/S 025 North Las Vegas, NV 89036-0707

Dear Ms. Hanion:

I am writing to ask that the Department of Energy recommend to President George Bush that the site at Yucca Mountain. Nevada be designated the national repository for highlevel radioactive waste and spent fuel. As a citizen who spent 17 years working in a Nuclear Power Plant, I feel I have a special interest and knowledge of the safety involved for both the public and nuclear plant workers. I support Yucca Mountain. and as a rate payer who has been paying for Yuca mountain for years wonder why it hasn't been built or why this remains an issue.

Many years of effort have been spent on siting a national disposal facility and the Department has identified a suitable location. Storing high-level radioactive waste at one location is a better option than continuing to accumulate spent nuclear fuel at more than 70 sites throughout the nation.

The nuclear industry has been handling, storing and transporting spent nuclear fuel for years and the containers used for these purposes have been designed and built to specifications that can withstand extreme conditions. These containers have been put through exhaustive testing and have an outstanding record of safety and performance.

The National Academy of Sciences recently affirmed that the geologic disposal is the only scientifically and technically credible solution to the high-level radioactive waste storage issue. The scientific evidence concludes that Yucca Mountain meets or exceeds the criteria for this type of facility.

For these reasons, I urge the Department to recommend the Yucca Mountain site to the President.

Sincerely.

Richard E. Conley

13564 W. Vermont Ave.

Gurnee, IL 60031

Phone 1-847-244-2871

Cc: Senator Peter Fitzgerald

Senator Durbin